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Appl'n No. 09/996,160
Amendment dated January 5, 2007
Reply to Office Action mailed July 6, 2006

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended): A method in a communication system comprising:
activating a data channel between a first and a second station;
starting a ready timer function in layer 3 of a connection function model;
maintaining the data channel in a ready state until the timer function indicates an expiry of a predefined period;
initiating transmission of data on the data channel by a Subnetwork Dependent Convergence Protocol (SNDCP) entity of the first station;
preventing the data channel to change from the ready state to another state based on the timer function, until a predefined event; and
changing the state of the data channel to the other state based on an indication by a further timer in a logical link control (LLC) layer of [a] the connection function model that is lower than a layer on which said timer function is implemented.
2. (Original): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one timer of the timer function is stopped until an indication of the event.
3. (Original): A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least one timer of the timer function is reset upon receipt of said indication.
4. (Original): A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least one timer of the timer function is restarted in response to said indication.
5. (Original): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the timer function is ignored until an indication of the event.
6. (Original): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the timer function is reset in response to an indication of the event.

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7. (Original): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the event comprises an indication that the data transmission has ended.

8. (Original): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the timer function is prevented to have impact on the state of the data channel during the data transmission.

9. (Original): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the length of said predefined period is set during the activation of the data channel based on a timer value.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the further timer is implemented by a logical link control function.

12. (Previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein an indication of the expiry of the further timer is handled by the system as it would be an indication from the timer function.

13. (Original): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first station comprises a mobile station and the second station comprises a base station of a cellular communication system.

14. (Original): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a data channel that is in the ready state prevents communication over another channel between the two stations.

15. (Original): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the communication system is based on a TErrestrial Trunked Radio (TETRA) standard or similar.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Previously presented): A communication system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the timer function comprises at least one timer that can be stopped until occurrence of the predefined event.

18. (Previously presented): A communication system as claimed in claim 17, wherein the timer function is ignored until the occurrence of the event.

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19. (Previously presented): A communication system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the timer function comprises at least one timer that can be restarted in response to an indication of the occurrence of the event.

20. (Previously presented): A communication system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the timer function is adapted to be reset in response to an indication that the event has occurred.

21. (Previously presented): A communication system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the event comprises an indication that data transmission is completed.

22. (Canceled).

23. (Canceled).

24. (Previously presented): A communication system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the further timer is implemented in a logical link control entity.

25. (Previously presented): A communication system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the control function is adapted to handle an indication of the expiry of the further timer as it would be an indication from the timer function.

26. (Previously presented): A communication system as claimed in claim 29, wherein the first station comprises a mobile station and the second station comprises a base station of a cellular communication system.

27. (Original): A communication system as claimed in claim 26, wherein the communication system is based on a TERrestrial Trunked Radio (TETRA) standard or similar.

28. (Canceled).

29. (Currently amended: A communication system comprising:

a first station and a second station, wherein a data channel can be established for data communication between the stations;

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a ready timer function in layer 3 of a connection function model for provision of an indication based on which a state of a data channel established between the two stations is changed from a ready state to another state;

a control function responsive to said timer function and for controlling the state of the data channel, arranged such that the data channel is prevented to change from the ready state to said other state based on the timer function, until a predefined event has occurred; and

a further timer implemented in a lower function layer of a connection function model than on which said timer function is implemented.

30. (Currently amended): A station for a communication system, said station comprising

communication means for establishing a data channel for data communication between the station and another station;

a ready timer function in layer 3 of a connection function model for provision of an indication based on which a state of a data channel established between the station and said other station is to be changed from a ready state to another state, arranged such that the data channel is prevented to change from the ready state to said other state based on the ready timer function, until occurrence of a predefined event; and

a further timer implemented in a lower function layer of a connection function model than on which said timer function is implemented.

31. (Previously presented) A station as claimed in claim 30, wherein the further timer is implemented in a logical link control entity.

32. (Currently amended) A station as claimed in claim 30, wherein the station is adapted to handle an indication of an expiry of the further timer ~~as it would be an indication from the timer function.~~

33. (Previously presented) A station as claimed in claim 30, wherein the timer function comprises at least one timer that can be stopped until occurrence of the predefined event.

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34. (Previously presented) A station as claimed in claim 33, wherein the timer function is ignored until the occurrence of the predefined event.